for quite a long time* Mine was copied by Mr. Lucas from a leather coat of Lord Mohun's. He is said to have had it on when he was killed. At any rate there was a large stab in the back of the coat, and a blood-stain.

This was my first speculation in play-buying *I* I saw it acted, and thought I could do something with it. Henry would not buy it, so I did! He let rne do it first in front of a revival of *' The Corsican Brothers" in 1891. It was a great success, although my son and I did not know a word on the first night and had our parts written out and pinned all over the furniture on the stage ! Dear old Mr. Howe wrote to rue that Teddy's performance was " more than creditable; it was exceedingly good aid full of character, and with your own charming performance the piece was a great success." Since 1891 I must have played " Xance Oldfield " hundreds of times, but I never had an Alexander Oldworthy so good as my own son, although such talented young actors as Martin Harvey, Laurence Irving and, more recently, Harcourt Williams have all played it with me.

Henry's pride as Cardinal Wolsey seemed to eat him* How wonderful he looked (though not fat and self-indulgent like the pictures of the real Wolsey) in his flame-coloured robes ! He had the silk dyed specially by the dyers to the Cardinals' College in Rome. Seymour Lucas designed the clothes. It was a magnificent production, but not very interesting to me. I played Katherine much better ten years later at

Stiatford-on-Avon at the Shakespeare Memorial Festival* I was stronger then, and more reposeful. This letter from Burne-Jones about " Henry VIIL" is a delightful tribute to Henry Irving's treatment of the play :

" MY DEAR LADY,—

" We went last night to the play (at my theatre) to **see**